

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CASABL 01414 271615Z  
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 EB-07 NSF-02 DLOS-06 IO-13  
AGRE-00 INT-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /078 W  
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FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4527  
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS CASABLANCA 1414

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIS, MO  
SUBJ: MARKETING INFORMATION ON SQUID

REF: STATE 305925

1. MAROCCAN FISHERY STATISTICS FOR 1975 REPORT 52 METRIC TONS  
(T) OF UNIDENTIFIED MOLLUSCS AS BEING LANDED IN MOROCCAN PORTS.  
THIS FIGURE IS PROBABLY MUCH LOWER THAN ACTUAL LANDINGS. SQUID  
CAN BE FOUND AT MOST MARKETS ON A DAILY BASIS. DEPENDING UPON  
SIZE AND AVAILABILITY, SQUID WILL SELL FOR BETWEEN A LOW OF U.S.  
\$1.00 TO HIGH OF \$4.00 PER LILOGRAM, WITH PRICE NOEMALLY ABOUT  
\$2.00 KG.  
DUE TO CONSUMER HABITS VERY LITTLE FROZEN/CANNEDSQUID IS CONSUMED.  
STOCKS REMAIN VERY LOW, WITH DAILY LANDINGS SUPPLYING MARKTS. DUE  
TO PROHIBITIVE TARIFFS (SOMETIMES AS HIGH AS 200-PERCNT OF VALUE  
OF PRODUCT) MOROCCO DOES NOT OFFER U.S. EXPORTERS A MARKET FOR  
AMERICAN SQUID PRODUCTS.

2. IN 1975 MOROCCO EXPORTED 1,137 T OF SQUID VERUS 1,259 T IN 1974

AND 644 T IN 1973 . THE FACT THAT MOROCCO LISTS SQUID EXPORTS,  
BUT NOT LANDINGS, IS EXPLAINED BY FACT THAT SQUID, ALTHOUGH CAUGHT  
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PAGE 02 CASABL 01414 271615Z

IN MOROCCAN WATERS BY MOROCCAN (OR JOINT VENTURE) VESSELS, IS  
UNLOADED IN LAS PALMAS, CANARY ISLANDS; FIGURES THUS CORRECTLY  
REFLECT EXPORTS, BUT NOT LANDINGS. MOROCC'S EXPORTS OF SQUID IN 1975  
ARE AS FOLLOWS:

| QUANTITY | VALUE |
|----------|-------|
|----------|-------|

|                |          |               |
|----------------|----------|---------------|
| FRANCE-----    | 773 MT   | US\$1,249,333 |
| ITALY-----     | 23 "     | \$ 26,178     |
| SPAIN-----     | 205 "    | \$ 272,188    |
| GIBRALYAR----- | 18 "     | \$ 21,883     |
| CANARIES-----  | 117 "    | \$ 118,470    |
| JAPAN-----     | 1 "      | \$ 1,270      |
| -----          |          |               |
| TOTAL-----     | 1,137 MT | US\$1,689,320 |

3. ON BASIS OF ABOVE FIGURES, AVERAGE PRICE PER TON OF SQUID WAS  
 US\$1,485 IN 1975. HIGHEST PRICE, \$1,612/T WAS PAID BY FRANCE,  
 WHILE LOWEST PRICE, \$1,013/T, WAS PAID IN CANARY ISLANDS.

4. MOST OF MOROCCO'S SQUID IS CAUGHT BY JAPANESE JOINT VENTURE  
 FISHING OPERATIONS BASED IN AGADIR. IN 1976, HOWEVER, SEVERAL NEW  
 STERN TRAWLERS WERE ADDED TO MOROCCO'S FISHING FLEET. THESE NEW  
 VESSELS WERE OWNED BY NEWLY ESTABLISHED JOINT VENTURE OPERATIONS  
 INVOLVING FRENCH, SPANISH, ITALIAN AND MOROCCAN INTERESTS. ALL  
 VESSELS WILL FISH FOR SQUID, CUTTLEFISH, AND OCTOPUS IN WATERS  
 OFF-EX-SPANISH SAHARA AND ALL HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT CATCH WILL BE  
 OFF-LOADED IN LAS PALMAS FOR EXPORT.

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## Message Attributes

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